

K-161

Timberwick
Near Massey
c. 1830

"Timberwick" is a modern name given to this farm north of Massey which had belonged in the 19th century to the Boyer and Cacy families. In 1810 and 1816 Stephen Boyer purchased parts of Angel's Lott, Forest and Adventure from William Palmer and Frederick Boyer.¹ In 1822, the Tax Assessor listed 540 acres in his possession.²

Apparently Boyer was a successful farmer, for during his ownership a substantial brick house was constructed on the farm. Its design was similar to Belmont located on the opposite side of the road which had been built for B. H. C. Massey in 1832.

Boyer's house was a five-bay, two-story, brick house with kitchen wing on the back or east side. Like Belmont and the Spear House, the walls were laid in common bond without decorative elements, as in earlier houses in the vicinity. There was, however, a corbeled cornice. The most ambitious architectural element inside was the stair which was built with a paneled spandrel and open-string balustrade. The newels were turned and there were two delicate rectangular balusters per step. Its dark, nearly round handrail rose above each newel post, suggesting a rope draped over the balustrade.

When Stephen Boyer died intestate in 1838, his personal estate was appraised by his neighbors, Ebenezer T. Massey (owner of Gondomah) and Samuel E. Briscoe. The estate included items that would have been

expected of a well-run farm including 19 cows, 25 head of sheep, 9 horses, lots of pigs and 14 slaves. The total amounted to \$4407.05 and included some carpets in the houses, 7 beds and 4 pair andirons with tongs and shovels.³

The farm was to go to his children, but the court apparently saw otherwise and appointed George Vickers to sell the real estate. This was carried out in 1844 and the deed to William Cacy was recorded the following year.⁴ Cacy, another successful farmer, lived on a farm south of the village and purchased the Boyer Farm in an effort to increase his farming operation. He had a frame house built on part of the Boyer Farm for his son, William E. Cacy, who died subsequently before his father.

Cacy retained ownership in all of the farms until his death in 1892, when he bequeathed his residence to his wife, Elizabeth Ann, the frame house to his grandson and this farm to his son, Samuel. William Cacy reserved the graveyards in his will for the use of his family. The family graveyard remains near the house on the farm with both Boyer and Cacy headstones.⁵

1. Land Records, Lib. BC 6, fol. 132; Lib. BC 8, fol. 484.
2. Tax Assessment, 1st District, 1822.
3. Inventories, Lib. 21, fol. 572.
4. Land Records, Lib. JNG 10, fol. 183.
5. Wills, Lib. TRS 1, fol. 152.

K-161

Circa 1820-1840

Timber Wick

Near Massey

Private

The main house at Timber Wick has a five-bay-wide, two-storey, gable-roofed main section built of brick and a lower two-storey, three-bay deep, gable-roofed, frame rear wing whose south side continues from the south end of the main section. There is also a small, twentieth-century, one-storey addition to the east of the wing. Main-section facade openings are symmetrically and evenly spaced and align from first storey to second. The main entry is in the central bay (though the original architrave and door are gone), and the plan is central hall with one room on each side. Though set well back from Route 299, the brick main section with its axis north-south is oriented toward it. The main section dates from about 1820 to 1840, while the rear wing is later, from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The wing appears to be built in the location of either a previous wing or a preceding house. The house has been extensively remodeled since the mid-twentieth century. The windows have been replaced and entries altered, and the mantels have been enclosed and possibly also removed. A handsome stair and some interior trim remain. The rear wing is used as an office for a large, multiple-farm vegetable-growing operation. The brick section of the main house at Timber Wick is one of several quite similar buildings in the vicinity that date from the second quarter of the nineteenth century. In most cases they probably replaced earlier buildings that had become too small, had deteriorated, or did not seem in keeping with the new prosperity that farming brought to this area of the county during the period. During the second quarter of the nineteenth century those who exhorted farmers to practice "scientific

farming" began to make converts, and once again this basically good farming area became productive. The building of many substantial new houses followed. No new ground was really broken architecturally with these new, commodious buildings. The form was still basically the Federal one that had been used at the turn of the century and earlier, though in detail the houses became somewhat simpler.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Boyer Farm; Cacy Farm

and/or common Timber Wick (Preferred)

2. Location

street & number East side Rt. 299, .7 mile north of Massey not for publicationcity, town Massey X vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Kent

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u>X</u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>X</u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u>X</u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>X</u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name G-K L. P.

street & number Box 137 telephone no.: 928-3253

city, town Massey state and zip code Maryland 21650

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Court House liber 144

street & number Cross Street folio 164

city, town Chestertown state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Site Inventory - HABS Inventory

date September 11, 1968 X federal X state county local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust, 21 State Circle

city, town Annapolis state Maryland

7. Description

Survey No. K-161

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The main house at Timber Wick has a five-bay-wide, two-story, gable-roofed main section built of brick and a lower two-story, three-bay deep, gable-roofed, frame rear wing whose south side continues from the south end of the main section. There is also a small, twentieth-century one-story addition to the east of the wing. Main-section facade openings are symmetrically and evenly spaced and align from first story to second. The main entry is in the central bay, though the original architrave and door are gone, and the plan is central hall with one room one each side. Though set well back from Route 299, the brick main section with its axis north-south is oriented toward it. The main section dates from about 1820 to 1840, while the rear wing is later, from the late nineteenth or early twentieth century. The wing appears to be built in the location of either a previous wing or a preceding house on the site. The house has been extensively remodeled since the mid-twentieth century. Most notably, the windows have been replaced, and the mantels have been enclosed and possibly also removed. The rear wing is used as an office for a large, multiple-farm vegetable-growing operation, though the main section is used by the owner personally.

(Continued)

8. Significance

Survey No. K-161

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates Circa 1820–1840 **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The brick section of the main house at Timber Wick is one of several quite similar buildings in the vicinity that appear to date from the second quarter of the nineteenth century. In most cases they probably replaced earlier buildings that had become too small, had deteriorated, or did not seem in keeping with the new prosperity that farming brought to this area of the county during the period. After the Revolutionary War the county suffered a long period of agricultural decline and loss of prosperity that was due partly to shifting markets, the rise of Baltimore and western parts of Maryland, the opening of the West, and especially the loss of productivity and fertility that years of poor farming practices had caused. During the second quarter of the nineteenth century those who exhorted farmers to practice "scientific farming" began to make converts, and once again this basically good farming area became productive. The building of many substantial new houses followed. No new ground was really broken architecturally with these new commodious buildings. The form was still basically the Federal one that had been used at the turn of the century and earlier, though in detail the houses had become somewhat simpler. Some of these houses incorporated Greek Revival details in otherwise essentially Federal buildings. Machine-milded elements also begin to appear. This is a period of transition in Kent County architecture.

For most of its history this farm seems to have belonged to the Boyer and Cacy families. Both the 1860 Martenet map of Kent County and the 1877 atlas map show William Cacy (Sr.) as the owner. In the middle of the nineteenth century this farm seems to have been divided, with William Cacy, Jr. then settling on a newly created farm to the south where a hipped-roof, Italianate house was built (K-629, now called the Donahoe Farm).

Survey No. K-161

Quadrangle scale _____

H | | | | | | | | | |

The brick bond of the main section varies from wall to wall. Nowhere is there a belt course or water table, in keeping with the coming emphasis on broad, flat, uninterrupted surfaces of the Greek Revival style. The west, approach facade is laid in Flemish bond. The bricks are a dark, orangey salmon. The north end has 1-to-6 common bond and the rear (east) side 1-to-7. The south end appears to be almost random (1-9, 1-6, 1-5, 1-8); the reason is unknown. Bricks are still hand molded and with wide (1/2") joints. Average bricks measure about 8-1/4" x 4-1/8" x 2-1/8". The walls of the wings are now covered with wood shingles. Horizontal, lapped weatherboard is likely to be beneath the shingling of the main rear wing.

The brick foundation of the main section is 16-17" thick. The main section's cellar is now entered only from the exterior, through what is probably a new opening in the east bay of the south end. There are signs that the cellar once was entered from the wing, either of the present wing or a former one. The wing is built over a crawl space; the foundation is brick.

The main section has a chimney in each end at the center, within the wall, built of the same brick as the house. Each has a two-course cap. The wing now has no chimney.

Black asphalt shingles laid over wood shingles cover the main-section roof. The wing roofs are covered with the same black asphalt shingles. The main section has a notable corbelled cornice, four courses of brick laid without interruption above the main walls. Corbelling was a popular detail during this period, whether in brick or wood and in cornices or elsewhere. There are flush wide verge boards with lower edge beaded and a molding applied about 3/4" above the bead or else routed. The latter appears to be the case. It is a shallow asymmetrical cove with fillet above, then a bead. The wing has an open cornice, with the rafters square-cut and tapered. They overhang the walls about 10" all around. Gutters are in place.

The main entry in the central bay of the west side has a colonial revival architrave with closed pediment and fluted pilasters. It appears to have been installed in the mid twentieth century. The brickwork has been disturbed above the architrave, but not in such a way as to indicate a former transom. Secondary entries are into the south main-section room, now a kitchen, through a door in the east bay of the south end. This appears to be a new door location, where former there was a window. At the east end of the central hall, where formerly there was a door there is now a window. A sill that appears to be of concrete is still in place in the brickwork there. On the south side of the rear wing there is an entry into the now-office in the west bay, and into this wing's addition there is an east-end entry, leading to the office also. While there is no evidence of a former porch at the rear of the main section, there is evidence in the brickwork of the west facade of a former porch that extended just beyond the outer shutters of the side bays adjacent to the central bay. There is a two-bay, deep, shed-roofed porch attached to the south side of the main wing. It appears to have been quite recently constructed.

(continued)

On the interior of the main section, closets have been built and mantels removed or covered on the end walls. Windows and their trim have been entirely replaced with new 6-over-6 sash. Exterior trim also appears to be replacement material. The original shutters appear to be in place, but now fastened to the walls. On the first story each shutter has 1-over-1 panels. The panels are recessed and slightly raised with ogee-and-bevel panel molding. They have sliding latches. On the second storey shutters have movable louvers.


The central-hall stair is open-string and half turn with landings and the landing rear-wall window above the second landing. There is a slender, turned newel with a 2-1/2" square base and four intermediates that are identical to the starting newel. The almost round c. 2-1/4" rail is continuous from the starting newel to the end of the balustrade, goose-necking over the intermediates. Darkly varnished, it may be of walnut. There are two rectangular balusters (3/4" x 1-1/8") per pine tread. The spandrel has five vertical panels that are recessed and raised, with a kind of small double-bead panel molding, as on the house's old doors. Under the stair there is a closet with an 8-panel door. The six panels above the lock rail are horizontal, the lower two vertical and paired. The door appears to have been rehung.

The opening between the first-storey north room and the hall is through a brick wall, where the necessarily deep jambs and lintel are panelled. The door is gone. The architrave has 4" bulls-eye corner blocks and compoundly molded trim, with the backband symmetrical and wide. This evidently was the "company" parlor. On the room side of the south room and on the second storey the trim is simpler. The south room has been converted to a kitchen only in the mid twentieth century. Formerly it probably was a dining room or a family living room.

To the northeast of the house there is a large family graveyard for the Boyer and Cacy families, with nineteenth-century grave markers of some note.

1501615304

Form 10-445
(5/62)

1. STATE <u>Maryland</u> COUNTY <u>Kent</u> TOWN <u>Massey</u> VICINITY STREET NO. <u>Rt. 299, .6 mile north of Massey</u> (east) ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <u>dwelling</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>John Alvarez</u> PRESENT USE <u>dwelling & office</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>brick</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>two</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY K - 161	
		2. NAME <u>Gemberling Farm</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>c. 1810 - 1830</u> STYLE <u>Federal</u> ARCHITECT BUILDER	
		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>no</u>			
<p><u>Gemberling Farm</u> is the name of a <u>large</u> tract of land now used for a nursery. The old brick house on the property is a typical Federal farm house of Kent county, being five bays long, with central door, two storys tall, and one room deep with a wing to the rear of the south half. The central door of the west facade has an architrave of modern millwork and the windows have paneled and louvered shutters, all with 6/6 sash. Two small casements in each gable light the attic. Chimneys are located within each gable. Very similar to the addition to the Massey house is the stepped cornice of four stepped brick.</p> <p>Nearby is a graveyard with some large noteable 19th century stones.</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>no</u> Interior Exterior <u>good</u>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)</p> <p>3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>7. PHOTOGRAPH</p> <p>9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Michael Bourne</u></p> <p>DATE OF RECORD <u>Sept. 11, 1968</u></p> </div> </div>			

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE

Name Gembsling Farm W. Cacy MHT# K-161
 Location Kent Massey
 COUNTY town

Rt 299 - 1/2 mile north of Massey on east side of Rd.
 address or road#

First owner of record _____ DATE _____

Present owner John Alvarez DATE 1968

Address Massey, Md.

Parcel or Deed # _____

Original use dwellings

Present use office for Nursery & dwellings

Md. Map Coordinates _____

Long. & Lat. reading _____

Style Federal

Date(s) of construction C. 1810 - 1830

Architect _____

Builder _____

DESCRIPTION:

2 NUMBER of stories brick type wall construction

Foundation-basement brick with window

Wall construction- brick - laid - Flem. bond on W & S

Side - common on other

Water table, string course, other decorative work essential to walls

NO

Chimneys on each gable

Name Gemberling FarmsMHT# K-161

Entrance type & placement

center with modern ^{willow} trim

Windows

8 x 2 - 6/6

Shutters

paneled down - 10 round no

Roof type

A

covering

Cornice, eaves

brick - 4 stepped brick - like latepart of adjoining Massey home

Dormers, cupolas

no

Porches

off frame with white to rest of dwelling

Wings, hyphens

above

Interior:

Stairway

Doors

Trim

Other notable work

Name Gemberling FarmsMHT# K-161Physical condition goodEnvironment farm - nursery - Cemetery with large
stones in rear

References:

MHT Color slide # _____

MHT B & W # _____

Owner contacted (Spoke to Samson)?

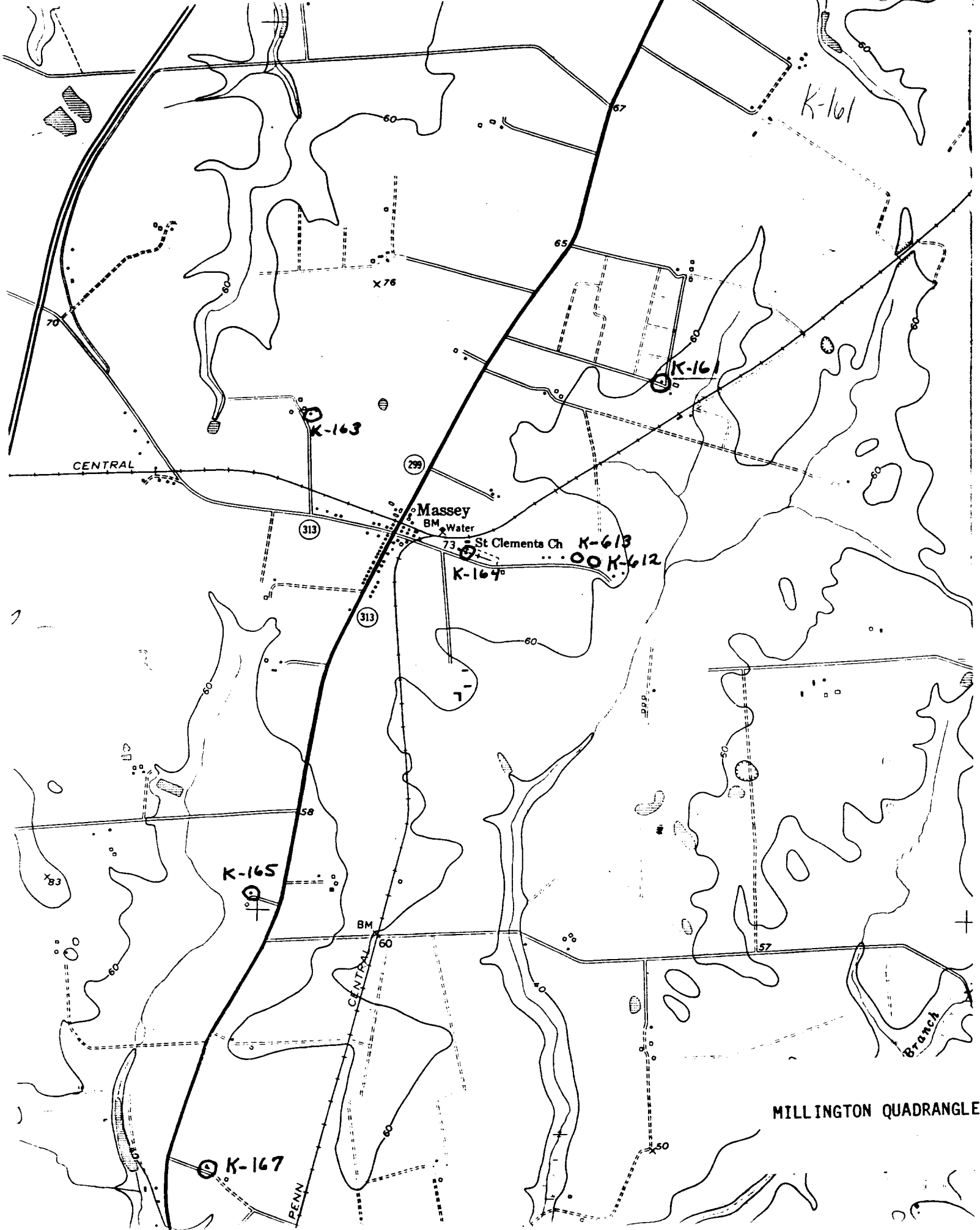
OTHER: _____

Recorder Michael BourneDate Sept 11, 1968

Summary: Gemberling Farms is part of a large tract of land in ~~use~~ as a nursery. The old brick house on the property is a typical federal farm house of Kent County, being 5 bays long, with central door, 2 stories tall, and one room deep with a wing to the rear of the south half. The central door of the west facade has an architrave of modest millwork and the windows have paneled & louvered shutters, all with $\frac{6}{8}$ panes. 2 small casements in the gables light the attic and chimneys are located in each gable. Very similar to the addition to the Mossey house is the stepped cornice of 4 bricks.

Nearby is a graveyard with some notable stones.

Enclosures: e.g. Map, Historical significance, sketch of floor plan, and angle of photos, etc.





K-161

Timber Wick

Rt. 299, near Massey

M. Q. Fallaw - 6/5/86

View to east

K161
#24
Q me w/ Lamm

**UNITED STATES NATIONAL TRUST
LAWYER**

K-161 Timberwick C. 1830



K-161

Timber Wick

Rt. 299, near Massey

M. Q. Fallaw - 6/5/86

View to southwest

#23

9 Dec 86 / 6mm

K 161